

**Public Comment Note:**

**Public Comments that are identical to these comments are not included in this electronic file. Hardcopies of letters identical to these may be inspected, or requested from the docket. The docket index contains a complete list of every public comment that we received**

October 25, 2006

Robert Baker  
 EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
 USEPA Region 9  
 75 Hawthorne Street  
 San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

Recent EPA hearings have totally ignored and don't address the real world impacts. The number one concern is Health Impacts and that was never even given consideration. There needs to be a survey done to get assessment of current health related impacts from the two existing power plants. The two worst power plants in the west.

I am writing to object to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. Given that unpaved roads and weak infrastructures mean sure death in times of respiratory failure—adding particulates to the air, which increase the likelihood of respiratory failures is tantamount to murder. 'Upgraded roads' were promised to Navajo residents by Four Corners Power Plant, but these promises remain unfulfilled.

Additionally, those who are proposing the mine are in violation of Environmental Justice Executive Order 12869 by not publicizing to local residents public meetings; I object to progress and negotiations made with out local residents' knowledge and input.

Sincerely,

*Sandra Pioche*

sandra pioche  
 P.O Box  
 Crown Point, NM 87313

October 25, 2006

XI 108

Robert Baker  
EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

Recent EPA hearings have totally ignored and don't address the real world impacts. The number one concern is Health Impacts and that was never even given consideration. There needs to be a survey done to get assessment of current health related impacts from the two existing power plants. The two worst power plants in the west has created numerous health impacts that need to be studied.

I am writing to object to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. Given that unpaved roads and weak infrastructures mean sure death in times of respiratory failure—adding particulates to the air, which increase the likelihood of respiratory failures is tantamount to murder. 'Upgraded roads' were promised to Navajo residents by Four Corners Power Plant, but these promises remain unfulfilled.

Additionally, those who are proposing the mine are in violation of Environmental Justice Executive Order 12869 by not publicizing to local residents public meetings; I object to progress and negotiations made with out local residents' knowledge and input.

Before the permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility it is critical that the above concerns are addressed. More importantly, real data needs to be extracted from the proposed area and NOT data from a hundred miles away when justifying the air is clean enough to take a third power plant.

Sincerely,

*Red Henderson*

T

Samostee, NM 87401



XI - 110

October 25, 2006

Robert Baker  
EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

I object to the issuance of the PSD air quality permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility. The recent public hearings did not address the cumulative health impacts. I am writing because I am opposed to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. My main question/concern is this: Why is the EPA allowing the high concentration of power plants in the Four Corners region, resulting in degraded public health and quality of life?

Health implications for decreasing air quality included an increase in the already record high admittance to the Indian Health Service facilities for asthma and other serious respiratory problems.

Additionally, the current state of health care services in the Navajo Nation is less than adequate. "Navajo Indian Health Services are only 70% funded and there is a 25% vacancy rate for doctors and nurses."\* Given the level of health care available to the citizens most affected by the proposed power plant, it is criminal to add to the already heavy health burdens created by the existing power plants.

Before the permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility it is critical that the above concerns are addressed. More importantly, real data needs to be extracted from the proposed area and NOT data from a hundred miles away when justifying the air is clean enough to take a third power plant.

Sincerely,

Harry Chee  
P.O. Box  
Sheep Springs, NM 87364

\* Source: 2004 Broken Promises—Evaluating Native American Health Care Systems by U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

October 26, 2006

Robert Baker  
EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

I object to the issuance of the PSD air quality permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility. The recent public hearings did not address the cumulative health impacts. Two existing plants in the vicinity have been called two of the worst point-sources of pollution in the U.S. by the EPA, spewing concentrations of a number of pollutants proven to be damaging to human health and the environment.

When considering the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant, my question is: Why is the EPA allowing the high concentration of power plants in the Four Corners region, resulting in degraded public health and quality of life.

We need answers that weren't even considered and addressed in the Air Quality Permit. High emission levels from Four Corners and San Juan Power Plants have severely affected agriculture in the San Juan basin. I object to subjecting the land to more air pollution which will have severe repercussions on the agriculture and pastoral lifestyle on which local residents' incomes rely. Additionally, I object to the violent treatment of the earth that is an unavoidable result of strip mining.

Before the permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility it is critical that the above concerns are addressed. More importantly, real data needs to be extracted from the proposed area and NOT data from a hundred miles away when justifying the air is clean enough to build a third power plant.

Sincerely,

*Dennis Manggoat*

*SANOS + c.e.N.M.*

XI - 114

October 22, 2006

Robert Baker  
EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing because I am opposed to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. My main question/concern is this: Why is the EPA allowing the high concentration of power plants in the Four Corners region, resulting in degraded public health and quality of life?

Health implications for decreasing air quality included an increase in the already record high admittance to the Indian Health Service facilities for asthma and other serious respiratory problems.

Additionally, the current state of health care services in the Navajo Nation is less than adequate. "Navajo Indian Health Services are only 70% funded and there is a 25% vacancy rate for doctors and nurses."\* Given the level of health care available to the citizens most affected by the proposed power plant, it is criminal to add to the already heavy health burdens created by the existing power plants.

Sincerely, *Dixon, Juliet*

*Atzac, N Mexico - 87410 -*

\* Source: 2004 Broken Promises—Evaluating Native American Health Care Systems by U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

October 26, 2006

Robert Baker  
EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing because I am opposed to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. The EPA's modeling was flawed because air monitors were located only at Farmington and at Rio Rancho near Albuquerque. Local and real world data from local hospitals is needed. US EPA Region 9 used data from Rio Rancho, which is approximately 180 miles away and has no bearing on the excessive pollution in the immediate area. I think they used those data because there is none existing in the immediate area - there has never been any readings done on the pollution or health related studies.

It also appears that the effects of coal combustion particulate matter on water quality are not adequately considered.

Given that this community already faces inadequate health care, it is criminal to add to already heavy health burdens created by the existing power plants.

Before the permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility it is critical that the above concerns are addressed. More importantly, real data needs to be extracted from the proposed area and NOT data from a hundred miles away when justifying the air is clean enough to take a third power plant.

Sincerely, Diana Mike  
*Diana Mike*  
P.O.  
San Jose, CA 95128

VI - 119

October 31, 2006

Horace Lapahie

Shiprock, NM 87420

Robert Baker, Air-3  
U.S. EPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker,

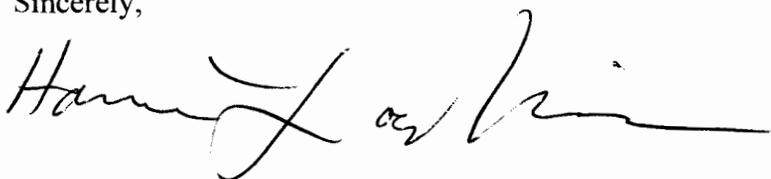
I am writing because I am opposed to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. The EPA's modeling was flawed because air monitors were located only at Farmington and at Rio Rancho, near Albuquerque. Local and real world data from local hospitals needed for accuracy.

EPA assessment didn't take into consideration addressing the Executive Order 12898 which states, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and low-Income Populations." Compliance with Environmental Justice is required for the Air Quality permit, where issues of concern include, "Disproportionate exposure to pollutants, potential health problems (respiratory, heavy metals in fish)" (USEPA Air Quality Impact Report, NSR 4-1-3, and AZP 04-01).

Why is the EPA allowing the high concentration of power plants in the Four Corners region degrading public health and quality of life?

There are real problems NOT addressed by EPA and these problems need to be addressed through health surveys and undertaking scientific studies for air, water, and the healthcare conditions of the impacted areas and residents. Environmental Justice must be served.

Sincerely,



XC: Filed

October 21, 2006

Robert Baker  
EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing because I am opposed to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. The EPA's modeling was flawed because air monitors were located only at Farmington and at Rio Rancho near Albuquerque. Local and real world data from local hospitals is needed. US EPA Region 9 used data from Rio Rancho, which is approximately 180 miles away and has no bearing on the excessive pollution in the immediate area. I think they used those data because there is none existing in the immediate area - there has never been any readings done on the pollution or health related studies.

It also appears that the effects of coal combustion particulate matter on water quality are not adequately considered.

Given that this community already faces inadequate health care, it is criminal to add to already heavy health burdens created by the existing power plants.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lucille A. Willie'.

Lucille A willie

NEWCOMB NM 87455

XI-130

October 24, 2006

Robert Baker  
EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

There was a miscarriage of justice carried out by the recent hearings held on the Draft Air Quality Permit for Desert Rock, Clean Air Act Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit. The process didn't even begin to address the health problems impacting the residents right under the proposed Desert Rock.

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. The EPA assessment didn't take into consideration addressing the Executive Order 12898: "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations." Compliance with Environmental Justice is required for the Air Quality permit, where issues of concern include: "Disproportionate exposure to pollutants, potential health problems (i.e. respiratory, heavy metals in fish, etc)"\* Therefore, residents insist that a health assessment, including Access Issues is essential as a baseline measure for monitoring purposes. Residents strongly object to being exposed to further pollution. A health study needs to be conducted to address health problems and lack of access to health care.

Sincerely,



\*Source: CISEPA Air Quality Impact Report, NSR .4-1-3, AZP 04-01

Roy Gleason  
Box  
Newcomb, NM 87455

October 18, 2006

To whom it may concern:

I am writing because I am opposed to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. The EPA's modeling was flawed because air monitors were located only at Farmington and at Rio Rancho near Albuquerque. Local and real world data from local hospitals is needed.

It also appears that the effects of coal combustion particulate matter on water quality are not adequately considered.

Given that this community already faces inadequate health care, it is criminal to add to already heavy health burdens created by the existing power plants.

Sincerely,

*Carmon Bradley* Oct. 25, 2006

*Amy Coeb* 10/25/2006

*M. Husman* 10/25/06

XL-137

October 18, 2006

To whom it may concern:

I am writing because I am opposed to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. My main question/concern is this: Why is the EPA allowing the high concentration of power plants in the Four Corners region, resulting in degraded public health and quality of life?

Health implications for decreasing air quality included an increase in the already record high admittance to the Indian Health Service facilities for asthma and other serious respiratory problems.

Additionally, the current state of health care services in the Navajo Nation is less than adequate. "Navajo Indian Health Services are only 70% funded and there is a 25% vacancy rate for doctors and nurses."\* Given the level of health care available to the citizens most affected by the proposed power plant, it is criminal to add to the already heavy health burdens created by the existing power plants.

Sincerely,

*Adella Bezayee*

\* Source: 2004 Broken Promises—Evaluating Native American Health Care Systems by U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

October 18, 2006



To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. The EPA assessment didn't take into consideration addressing the Executive Order 12898: "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations." Compliance with Environmental Justice is required for the Air Quality permit, where issues of concern include: "Disproportionate exposure to pollutants, potential health problems (i.e. respiratory, heavy metals in fish, etc)"\* Therefore, residents insist that a health assessment, including Access Issues is essential as a baseline measure for monitoring purposes. Residents strongly object to being exposed to further pollution. A health study needs to be conducted to address health problems and lack of access to health care.

Sincerely,



\*Source: CISEPA Air Quality Impact Report, NSR .4-1-3, AZP 04-01

XI-153

October 18, 2006

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to object to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. Given that unpaved roads and weak infrastructures mean sure death in times of respiratory failure—adding particulates to the air, which increase the likelihood of respiratory failures is tantamount to murder. 'Upgraded roads' were promised to Navajo residents by Four Corners Power Plant, but these promises remain unfulfilled.

Additionally, those who are proposing the mine are in violation of Environmental Justice Executive Order 12869 by not publicizing to local residents public meetings; I object to progress and negotiations made with out local residents' knowledge and input.

Sincerely,

Owen Jackson  
J. Kinnear

XI - 160

October 18, 2006

To Whom it May Concern:

When considering the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant, my question is: Why is the EPA allowing the high concentration of power plants in the Four Corners region, resulting in degraded public health and quality of life.

High emission levels from Four Corners and San Juan Power Plants have severely affected agriculture in the San Juan basin. I object to subjecting the land to more air pollution which will have severe repercussions on the agriculture and pastoral lifestyle on which local residents' incomes rely. Additionally, I object to the violent treatment of the earth that is an unavoidable result of strip mining.

Sincerely,



October 24, 2006

Delphine Allen  
P.O. Box 7852  
Newcomb, NM  
- 87455 -

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Robert Baker, Air-3  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker

The Desert Rock project will have disproportionate impacts on the low income and minority communities. As a federal agency, the EPA is obligated to consider environmental justice impacts prior to issuance of the permits. The EPA has not addressed how Desert Rock Energy Facility complies with Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations."

The effects of coal combustion particulate matter on Water Quality are not adequately considered

Objections based on Health Impacts and the severe lacking Indian Health care. "Navajo Indian Health Services are only 70% funded and there is a 25% vacancy rate for doctors and nurses" states the Director of the Division of Health for the Navajo Nation.  
*Source: 2004 Broken Promises-Evaluating Native American Health Care System by US Commission on Civil Rights*

Victims of Asthma and other respiratory diseases have record high admittance at Shiprock Indian Health Service Emergency Room; Higher than other Health Providers in the Four Corners Region.  
*Source: Anonymous IHS Nurse/Provider. Studies needed as no documentation is being released for public purposes.*

There are **inadequate** Public Health and private health facilities as well as health personnel to care for victims of water and air pollution caused by this plant

Health implications for decreasing air quality include an increase in the already record high admittance to the Indian Health Service facilities for asthma and other serious respiratory problems.

Residents insist that a **Health Assessment including Access Issues** is essential as a baseline measure for monitoring purposes.

Before the permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility it is critical that the above concerns are addressed.

Sincerely, *Delphine N. Allen*

October 25, 2006

Robert Baker  
EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

I object to the issuance of the PSD air quality permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility. The recent public hearings did not address the cumulative health impacts. I am writing because I am opposed to the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. My main question/concern is this: Why is the EPA allowing the high concentration of power plants in the Four Corners region, resulting in degraded public health and quality of life?

Health implications for decreasing air quality included an increase in the already record high admittance to the Indian Health Service facilities for asthma and other serious respiratory problems.

Additionally, the current state of health care services in the Navajo Nation is less than adequate. "Navajo Indian Health Services are only 70% funded and there is a 25% vacancy rate for doctors and nurses."\* Given the level of health care available to the citizens most affected by the proposed power plant, it is criminal to add to the already heavy health burdens created by the existing power plants.

Before the permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility it is critical that the above concerns are addressed. More importantly, real data needs to be extracted from the proposed area and NOT data from a hundred miles away when justifying the air is clean enough to take a third power plant.

Sincerely,

*Lillie Atcitty* - Lillie Atcitty  
P.O. Box 7742  
New Comb, NM 87455

\* Source: 2004 Broken Promises—Evaluating Native American Health Care Systems by U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

VI-490

October 26, 2006

Harrison, Ardelle  
PO BOX 1484  
Shiprock, NM 87420

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Robert Baker, Air-3  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker

I object to the issuance of the PSD air quality permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility. The recent public hearings did not address the cumulative health impacts. Two existing plants in the vicinity have been called two of the worst point-sources of pollution in the U.S. by the EPA, spewing concentrations of a number of pollutants proven to be damaging to human health and the environment. The health of neighboring residents has already been compromised by their exposure to these toxins; it would be genocidal to subject them to more pollutants in their already overburdened community. Despite the talk of so-called reduced power plant emissions, the San Juan County area simply cannot afford the increased emissions levels that will result from Desert Rock.

**The Environmental Protection Agency estimates:**

Fine particle pollution shortens the lives of 39 New Mexicans each year.

5,717 Lost work days

29 hospitalizations

1,018 asthma attacks/emergency room visits every year

There is a 26% increased risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and a 40% increased risk of respiratory death.

*Journal of the American Medical Association (June 2004)*

Before the permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility it is critical that the above concerns are addressed. More importantly, real data needs to be extracted from the proposed area and NOT data from a hundred miles away when justifying the air is clean enough to take a third power plant.

Sincerely,



October 24, 2006

Comment 679

Ambrose Willie, Jr.  
Dooda Desert Rock Committee/Diné CARE

Newcomb, NM 87455

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Robert Baker, Air-3  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

I live on the Navajo reservation and I am object to the issuance of the PSD air quality permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility. I live a few miles from the proposed Desert Rock power plant.

The recent public hearings did not address the Executive Order on Environmental Justice 12898. The Desert Rock project will have disproportionate impacts on the low income and minority communities. As a federal agency, the EPA obligated to consider environmental justice impacts prior to issuance of the permits. The EPA has not addressed how Desert Rock Energy Facility complies with Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations."

How can the construction of a third power plant be justified when the combined and cumulative effects of the first two are not yet known?

The effects of coal combustion particulate matter on Water Quality are not adequately considered.

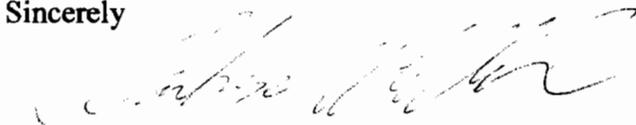
There are **inadequate** Public Health and private health facilities as well as health personnel to care for victims of water and air pollution caused by this plant.

Health implications for decreasing air quality include an increase in the already record high admittance to the Indian Health Service facilities for asthma and other serious respiratory problems.

Residents insist that a **Health Assessment** including **Access Issues** is essential as a baseline measure for monitoring purposes.

Before the permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility it is essential that the above concerns are addressed and the public fully must be informed of the resolution of these concerns.

Sincerely



Ambrose Willie, Jr.

October 26, 2006

Robert Baker  
EPA Air Quality (AIR-3)  
USEPA Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

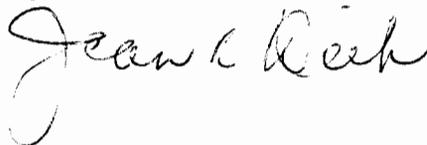
I object to the issuance of the PSD air quality permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility. The recent public hearings did not address the cumulative health impacts. Two existing plants in the vicinity have been called two of the worst point-sources of pollution in the U.S. by the EPA, spewing concentrations of a number of pollutants proven to be damaging to human health and the environment.

When considering the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant, my question is: Why is the EPA allowing the high concentration of power plants in the Four Corners region, resulting in degraded public health and quality of life.

We need answers that weren't even considered and addressed in the Air Quality Permit. High emission levels from Four Corners and San Juan Power Plants have severely affected agriculture in the San Juan basin. I object to subjecting the land to more air pollution which will have severe repercussions on the agriculture and pastoral lifestyle on which local residents' incomes rely. Additionally, I object to the violent treatment of the earth that is an unavoidable result of strip mining.

Before the permit to Sithe Global Power for the Desert Rock Energy Facility it is critical that the above concerns are addressed. More importantly, real data needs to be extracted from the proposed area and NOT data from a hundred miles away when justifying the air is clean enough to build a third power plant.

Sincerely,



Jean Dick  
PO BOX  
Newcomb, NM 87455